

Child/Youth Engagement -- providing opportunities for youth to be engaged in and contribute to their communities.

An integral part of positive youth development includes opportunities for children and youth to exercise leadership and to take initiative for their own learning. Civic engagement (opportunities to participate in meaningful decision-making and contributions to the greater good) positively affects youth, the adults involved, and improves the overall organization. Youth engagement has the greatest impact when adults create such opportunities, see youth as partners in the process, and support youth as they engage in developmentally appropriate activities.